

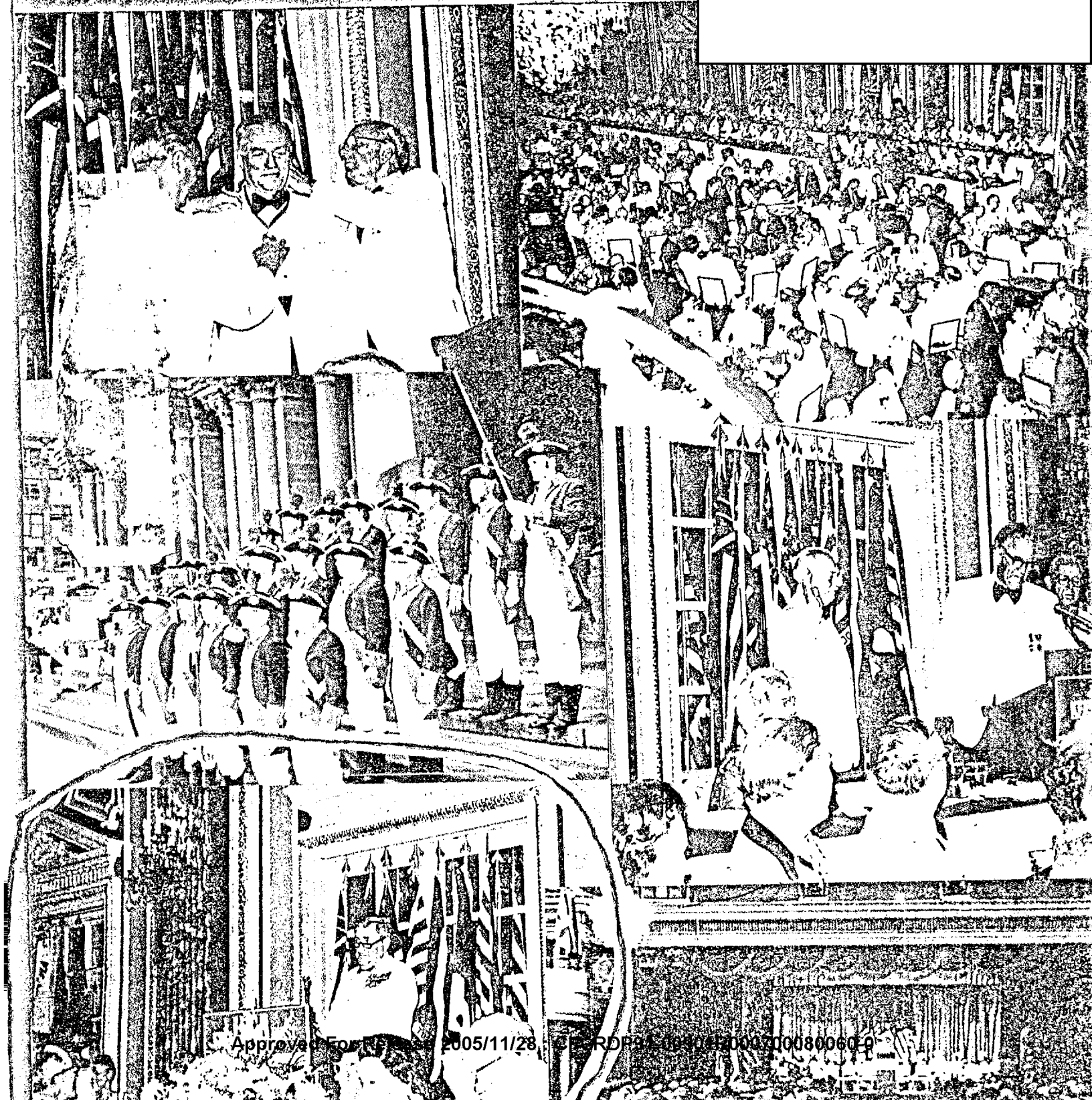
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## THE CIA Going Public

After eighteen weeks, the Rockefeller commission wound up its investigation of alleged domestic spying by the CIA last week, and provided an unexpected preview of its likely conclusions. Filling in for Vice President Nelson Rockefeller at the weekly press briefing, acting chairman C. Douglas Dillon surprised reporters by publicly giving the CIA a relatively clean bill of health. He said the panel had not uncovered "massive" domestic spying, as charged by Seymour M. Hersh of The New York Times. "My own personal opinion," said Dillon, a former Treasury Secretary, "is that, with one or two rather major exceptions, everything that was done was rather peripheral and was connected in one way or another with the legitimate work of the agency."

Just what the "major exceptions" were, Dillon would not say, although he implied that the commission's findings would not differ much from public admissions made by CIA director William Colby. That would include opening mail sent overseas, placing journalists and political dissenters under surveillance and assembling files on more than 10,000 Americans. Dillon, who was involved with the intelligence community himself as Under Secretary of State in the Eisenhower Administration, said he had "no knowledge" that alleged CIA plotting against Cuba's Fidel Castro had incited the assassination of John F. Kennedy. But he did confirm that President Ford had asked the panel to look into charges of CIA involvement in plots against Castro and other foreign leaders.

As the commission's staff was begin-

ning to write the final report, which may run to more than 500 pages, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence began to go over much of the same ground. The committee, NEWSWEEK learned, had already obtained evidence from another Senate panel on contacts between the CIA and multinational corporations, and last week it had Colby himself as a lead-off witness. But whether the senators could be given full access to hard evidence in CIA files and those of other agencies was still a subject of delicate negotiation between the committee and the intelligence community.

**A Hostile World:** Some CIA officials reportedly believe that too much has been made public already. So far this year, Colby has given 30 speeches, in line with his promise to make the CIA more open and to win support for the

agency. Deputy director Vernon Walters has also hit the lecture circuit, as has CIA veteran David Atlee Phillips, 52, who recently resigned as chief of Latin American operations to "explain" the agency to a hostile world. All of them argue that the CIA is being criticized for cloak-and-dagger operations of a sort that it doesn't indulge in much any more.

Phillips, a former actor, playwright and newspaperman in Latin America, decided to retire from the CIA after breaking the news to one of his seven children that he was an intelligence officer. The dismayed child replied: "But that's dirty." Phillips asserts that the CIA has "abandoned its anti-Castro efforts" and that the "retrenchment occurred before the current contention about our activities had developed." But his "explanations" of the agency often are tantalizingly unspecific. "I did not leave the CIA," he says, "to unveil secrets which are not mine to disclose." Phillips's campaign moved into gear last week with speeches before two private groups in New York—both sessions closed to the press and public.

—DAVID M. ALPERN with ANTHONY MARRO and EVERT CLARK in Washington

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